

Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission

Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting – 7:30 PM, February 20, 2018

Location:

Location: Fairfax County DOT, 4050 Legato Road, Suite 400, Conf. Rooms 400.06 & 400.08
Fairfax, Virginia 22033

Web Site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings

Note-Taker: Eric D. Thiel

TAC Members: Chairman Jeff Parnes (Sully), Vice Chairman Jenifer Joy Madden (Hunter Mill), Secretary Roger Hoskin (Mason), Linda Sperling (At-Large), Kevin Morse (Braddock), Mike Champness (Dranesville), Harry Zimmerman (Lee), Michael Shor (Mt. Vernon), and Micah Himmel (Providence), Eric Thiel (Springfield), and MaryPauline Jones (Fairfax Area Disability Services Board)

Others in Attendance: Calvin Lam (FCDOT), Casey Judge (DPZ) and Leslie Johnson (DPZ).

Agenda and Discussion Topics

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm and Chairman Parnes welcomed Ms. MaryPauline Jones of the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board as a new member of the TAC.

Fairfax County Zoning Modernization Project (ZMOD) Briefing by Leslie Johnson, Zoning Administrator, and Casey Judge (DPZ)

The county zoning structure is 40 years old. The county was a very different place then in terms of population density, employment and residence distributions, etc. The current document structure has had many modifications over the years and is not considered a “clean” or easily interpretable document. Single topics are scattered across the document, it is not structured to be compatible or support online graphics, interaction, etc. The document has 19 major sections. More modern similar documents have around 7.

These issues lead to uncertainty, confusion, delays, and increased potential for legal disputes. New land use zoning users (businesses/developers, etc.) are having increasing difficulty in finding a “match” in the document for their business, thus slowing some business growth. The current zoning document has 470 modifications and is still challenging for craft beverage providers, wineries, short term lodging, parking, flexible vehicle charging stations, and other providers to interpret.

Additionally, the county would like the document to be compatible with various mobile devices to improve public access, transparency, and to consolidate topics into more compact and logical format. Increased “search-ability” and ease of matching the user’s project to clear examples in the document.

The county has hired specialist support contractors (land use planners and lawyers with national experience and direct knowledge of the relevant Virginia legal code.) with extensive experience developing new zoning documentation for over 180 communities.

The review and public information process includes the project website (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/zmod), Facebook page, online surveys, email signups for notifications, public meetings, and direct contacts with interested parties and groups.

The document development plan has initial public outreach in Q1 of 2018, developing the new ordinance structure in Q2 of 2018, updating land use categories in Q3/4 of 2018, modernizing the ordinance structure and format Q1/2 2019, followed by adoption in 2020. Public outreach continues over the life of the ZMOD project.

In response to questions, staff explained that all information as part of the development process will be available on the county website. Multiple details, such as special use permits, graphics vs. text as legal foundational material, how to structure both use and size limits (e.g. hardware store OK, but not a giant box version.), are works in progress. Short term transient rentals, such as Airbnb, are being handled separately. Live-work issues, such as Apple Campus, etc., are under consideration, but are not simple to implement. Consultants are looking at the problem.

The zoning document is the implementation of the 4-volume county comprehensive plan. Specific details, such as parking density, are left to phase 2 of the project. We are particularly complicated since the county has highly variable business and residential densities.

While zoning does not cover public rights of way, zoning does interact with transportation planning in terms of local densities and requirements on developments for Traffic Demand Management (TDM) in the zoning.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously by voice vote and without change.

Comment & Feedback on Previous Meeting's Presentations

Commissioners did not have any comments or feedback on last month's update on "Potomac River Crossings Data Development Study" presentation.

Report on Planning for the Future Working Group

Commissioner Champness reported that the Future Working Group met with Tom Biesiadny, FCDOT Director on February 13, 2018. Commissioner Champness reviewed the progress of the Future Working Group via a PowerPoint presentation (attached), and the next steps. The next meeting date is scheduled for March 6, 2018.

Other Business

Several Commissioners were interested in attending the Smart Cities Event scheduled for March 19, 2018, at the Fairfax County Government Center. Invitations will be sent to the members.

Planned Agenda for next meeting

The TAC discussed three options for potential meeting agenda topics, as follows:

Topics for Future Meetings (Candidates for holding meetings at alternate location indicated in **bold**)

- **March 20:** MWCOG update on adopted CLRP
- **April 17:** Transportation Demand Management's (TDM) Metrics for Key Performance Indicators
- **May 15:** Legislative Session Briefing
- **June 19:** VRE Rail Excursion

- **July 17:** Adoption of Report of the TAC Working Subcommittee on Planning for the Future
- **TBD:** Joint meeting date with the Planning Commission's Transportation Committee on what their vision is for future development and any changes in planning and zoning guidelines that may be needed to account for future work environment given the pace and impacts of technology advances

Announcements and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Upcoming Events/Other Meetings:

February 22, 2018	7-9pm	Dranesville District Paving and Restriping Franklin Sherman Elementary School cafeteria
February 27, 2018	11:00 am	Board Transportation Committee Government Center, Conference Room 11
March 8, 2018	6:30-8:30 pm	East Spring St Widening, Herndon, VA Herndon Community Center, Gym
March 9, 2018	Contact NLT	Rolling Road Widening VDOT, Alliance Dr, Fairfax
April 7, 2018	7-9 pm	Springfield District Paving and Restriping Springfield Governmental Center
May 8, 2018	1:30 pm	Board Transportation Committee Government Center, Conference Room 11
July 17, 2018	11:00 am	Board Transportation Committee Government Center, Conference Room 11

Upcoming TAC Meetings:

March 6, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
March 20, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
April 3, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
April 17, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
May 1, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
May 15, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
June 5, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
June 19, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
July 3, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
July 17, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
August 7, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
August 21, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
September 4, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
September 18, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
October 2, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
October 16, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)

November 6, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
November 20, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)
December 4, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Work Session (FCDOT)
December 18, 2018	7:30 pm	TAC Regular Meeting (FCDOT)